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May 4th.

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Thirty-two members present.

The following papers were presented for publication in the Proceedings :

Notes on American Land Shells, No. 3, by W. G. Binney.

Description of a new Phyllostome Bat from California, in the Museum of the Smithsonian Institution, by Spencer F. Baird.

And were referred to Committees.

Mr. Taylor stated that, at a meeting of the Academy, on the 16th of February, he made a verbal communication, announcing the discovery of a probably new mineral in crystals, which had been brought from the cave of Las Piedras, Honduras, by his friend, Dr. John L. LeConte. By a qualitative analysis, he found it to be an anhydrous Sulphate of Potash, containing Ammonia. Prof. Dana, of New Haven, to whom he had sent two of the crystals, very kindly measured them, and found a difference in the angle of the trimetric prism sufficient to separate it from Glaserite, to which it was first referred. The difference of angle being about in ratio to that existing between Barytes, Anhydrite, Celestine, Anglesite, &c., isomorphous anhydrous sulphates. He hoped soon to show, by a quantitative analysis, that it is worthy of being considered a new species. He regretted very much that this preliminary notice, which is recorded in the rough minutes of the meeting referred to, should not have appeared in the printed Proceedings for that month.

Mr. Foulke asked the attention of the Academy to the fact that in the published Proceedings, under date of 16th February last, his name had been accidentally printed in connection with remarks which had never been made by him.

May 11th.

MR. VAUX in the Chair.

Thirty-one members present.

A communication was read from Dr. Isaac I. Hayes, announcing his desire to attempt a further exploration of the Arctic regions, and asking for such suggestions from the Academy as might assist in carrying out the project.

Whereupon the following resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, That the Academy has heard with great interest the communication of Dr. Isaac I. Hayes, of his purpose to attempt a further exploration of the Arctic regions.

Resolved, That the Academy will hereafter give to Dr. Hayes such recommendations respecting the subjects proposed by him, as shall be deemed most likely to promote the objects of the Academy.

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to co-operate on behalf of the Academy with Dr. Hayes.

The Committee was then appointed, as follows : Messrs. J. F. Frazer, T. B. Wilson, I. Lea, W. P. Foulke, J. L. LeConte, J. Leidy, and W. S. W. Ruschenberger ; subsequently, on motion, Messrs. E. Durand and J. Carson were added to the Committee.

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Authority was given to the Committee in charge of Say's Conchology to sell copies of impressions of the plates of that work.

May 18th.

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Forty-five members present.

Mr. Lea exhibited some remarkable specimens of UNIONIDÆ, six to eight inches wide. Some of these had the soft parts, and he called attention to two fine specimens of *Margaritana complanata*, and *Unio multiplicatus*, both females, with the oviducts fully charged with embryonic shells, ready to be discharged by the parents. There were two important points he wished to be noticed. 1st. The enormous quantity of young in the mass of the outer branchiæ of the *Margaritana*, (the branchiæ were $3 \times 1\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$ inches,) each specimen containing probably several millions of individuals. 2nd. That the *Unio multiplicatus* was peculiar in having *both lobes on both sides*, charged with embryonic shells, containing no doubt several millions of individuals. This species of *Unio* is the *only one* Mr. Lea had ever observed furnished with oviducts in *all the four leaves* of the branchiæ. It is very probable that half a dozen of these *Mollusca* would produce individuals equal in number to the population of the whole United States.

Mr. Cassin announced the death of Dr. Robert Hare, late a member of the Academy.

May 25th.

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Twenty-six members present.

The Proceedings of the Biological Department for the current month were presented.

The following papers were ordered to be published in the Proceedings:

Note: on American Land Shells. No. 3.

BY W. G. BINNEY.

The following species of Helicidæ, now first described, were collected by Dr. F. V. Hayden, of the Yellowstone Ex. Ex., (Lieut. G. K. Warren), Dr. T. S. Newberry, of the Colorado R. Ex. Ex., (Lieut. Ives), Mr. Robert Kenicott, during a recent visit to the Red River of the North, and in Mexico by the late Mr. Berlandière, whose valuable collections were bought and presented to the Smithsonian Institute by Lieut. Couch. Specimens of all the species are deposited in the collection of that Institution, and also in that of the Academy, through the kindness of Prof. Baird, and the gentlemen named above. Figures of these, and all species described by me, will be published at some subsequent time.

SUCCINEA HAYDENI.—Testa elongato-ovalis, tenuis, pellucida, succinea; spira parva, acuta; anfr. 3 convexi, ultimus rugis incrementalibus et sulcis crassis spiralibus, interruptis, inequaliter notatus; sutura mediocris; columella callo levi induta, apicem interiorem a basi testæ mostrans; apertura obliqua, ovalis, 5-7 long. testæ æquans, ad basin expansior. Long. 21; diam. 9 mill.

Habitat in provinciâ Nebraska, frequens inter flumina "Loup Fork," et "L'eau qui court" Dr. F. V. Hayden! (Yellowstone Ex. Ex.)

[May.